

Welcome!



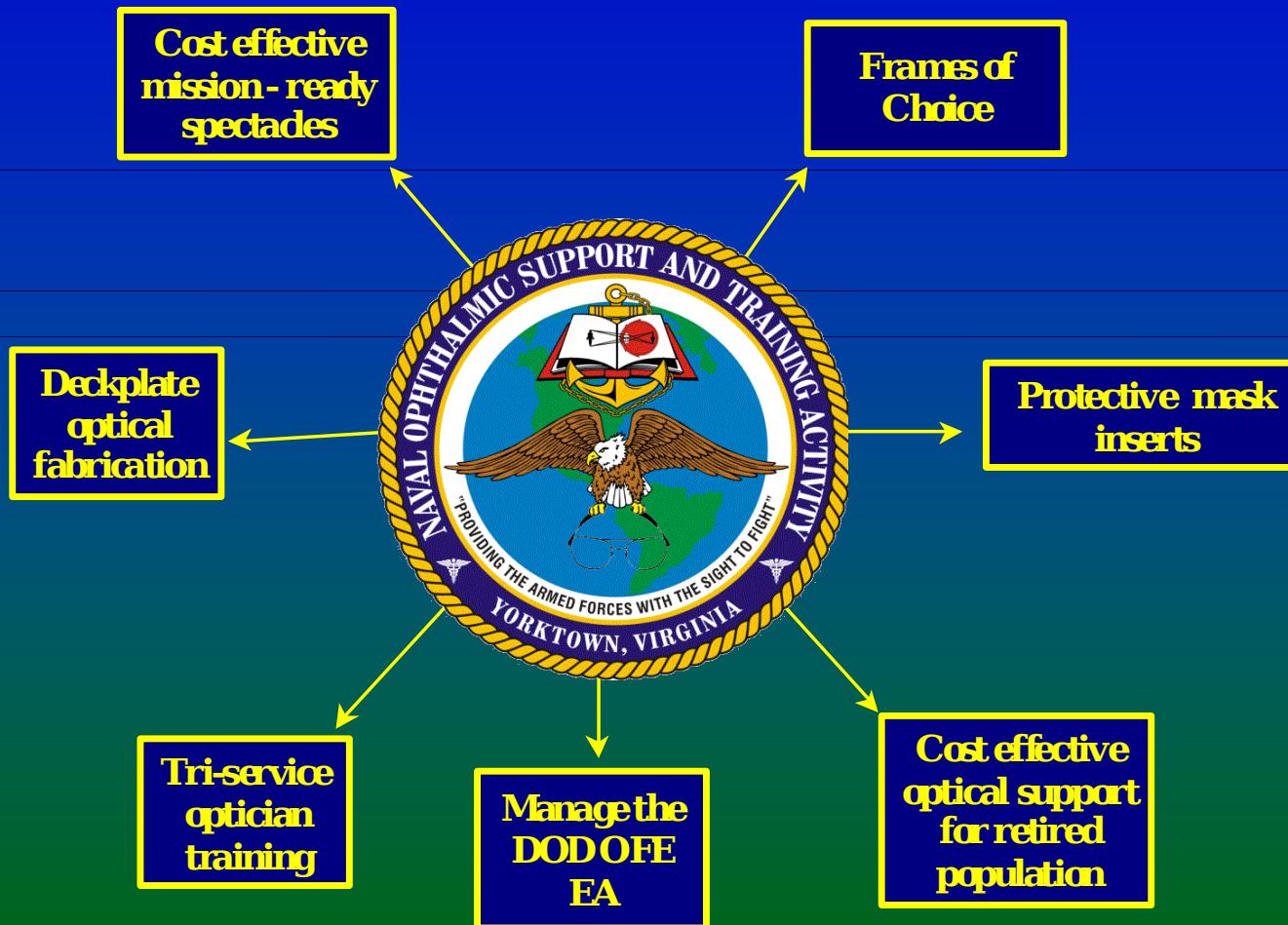
***"Providing the Armed Forces
with the sight to fight"***

Optician (NEC HM-8463) Naval Ophthalmic Support and Training Activity Yorktown, VA



OUR MISSION:

Ensuring the Armed Forces maintain operational vision readiness



HISTORY OF THE TRI-SERVICE OPTICIAN SCHOOL

- In November 1992, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff mandated that the military review the Military Training Structure to ensure that training effectiveness, maintaining or improving combat readiness, eliminating or reducing infrastructure, identify areas that could benefit from consolidation and reduce the overall cost to the Department of Defense (DOD) for training. The Interservice Training Review Organization (ITRO) is the process which this directive is carried out.
- Prior to this time, a committee was reviewing the feasibility of combining ocular training for the Army, Navy and Air Force. This group reviewed Army Ocular Technicians (91Y), Army Optical Laboratory Specialist (91H), Navy Ocular Technicians (HM-8445), Navy Optician (HM-8463) and the Air Force Optometry Technicians. This group determined that Optician training was outside the scope of their tasking and a separate committee was formed for reviewing Optician training only. This new committee evaluated the curriculum, length of training, logistical support, facility requirements, base support requirements, student load and instructor manning.

HISTORY OF THE TRI-SERVICE OPTICIAN SCHOOL

- The Tri-Service Optician School is the accomplishment of three years of reviewing Opticianry training in the military. Members of the Army, Navy and Air Force, after numerous meetings and a few "costing out's", decided that there was a "commonality" between the Army and Navy's Opticianry programs and that a 24 week Tri-service Opticianry Course (TOPS) with four classes each year for approximately 120 students (60 Army, 60 Navy) be offered and that the course should be conducted at the Naval Ophthalmic Support & Training Activity, in Yorktown, VA.
- The consolidated/co-located course will continue to maintain accreditation by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation and Council for Occupational Education.
- The Tri-Service Optician School was commissioned on Monday, 13 November 1995

Optician training

Upon acceptance to the school, Navy Hospital Corpsman, Army Soldiers, and Airmen participate in a 180 day training curriculum consisting of studies in the following areas:

- Geometrical Optics
- Ophthalmic Lens Design
- Spectacle Fabrication
- Clinical Management
- Practical Finishing Laboratory
- Diseases and Disorders of the Eye
- Clinical Procedures
- Optical Math
- Mechanical Optics
- Equipment Repair & Maintenance
- Ophthalmic Dispensing
- Practical Surfacing Laboratory
- Pharmaceutical Agents
- Clinical Rotation
- Laboratory Apprenticeship

Fabrication sites

OPTICAL FABRICATION LABS

- NOSTRA
- PENSACOLA, FL
- CAMP LEJEUNE, NC
- SAN DIEGO, CA
- NEWPORT, RI
- GREAT LAKES, IL
- NAPLES, ITALY
- YOKUSKA, JAPAN
- BAMC, TX
- FT JACKSON, SC
- FT LEONARD WOOD. MO
- FT KNOX, KY
- 16TH MEDLOG, KOREA

BETHESDA, MD
MAYPORT, FL
SEWELLS POINT, VA
BREMERTON, WA
PARRIS ISLAND, SC
PEARL HARBOR, HI
GUAM
GTMO BAY, CUBA
TRIPLER, HI
FT BENNING, GA
FT SILL, OK
USAMMCE, GERMANY
CARRIERS

Program Requirements

Prerequisites for selection to Optician "C" School include the following:

- HM "A" School
- Paygrades E-2 through E-5
- Physically qualified for transfer per MANMED and TRANSMAN
- Fully qualified to perform all duties required of the NEC

Program Requirements

- Your Career Counselor must submit NAVPERS 1306/7 requesting the school
- Last 3 years of your evals, service record pages 3, 4 and 5. (Page 3/4 should reflect the grade/score of the required courses with a grade of "C" or better/score of not less than 3.0)
- No NJP for the past 3 years.

Program Requirements

- Curriculum requires the student to perform mathematical calculation. High school or College Algebra and Physical Science with a grade of "C" or better and/or completion of NAVEDTRA 10069-D series (Mathematics, Volume I) is most desired and will strongly influence selection opportunity

Program Requirements

- Your Commanding Officer's endorsement
- To enhance selection opportunity, an interview is desired (but not required) with an Optician or, if not available, with a senior medical department representative, preferably within the same or related clinical or technical specialty

Opportunities

- Upon graduation, new opticians that receive orders to NOSTRA will be able to transfer 34 credits from Optician School to Thomas Nelson Community College towards an Associates in Applied Science Degree with a major in Opticianry. The new optician would need only to finish the other required courses (33 credits) to receive an A.A.S. Degree in Opticianry.

Opportunities

- After receiving the A.A.S. Degree in Opticianry the optician can challenge the Virginia State licensing examination.
- Additionally, students successfully completing Optician School will be eligible for the Opticianry Apprenticeship Program and they can challenge the American Board of Opticianry examination to receive national certification.



External Recognition ~ Past 12 Months ~

- Defense Logistics Agency Customer of the Year
- Nathaniel Stinson EEO award for US Navy
- Virginia Environmental Excellence Program Environmental Enterprise Status
- Hampton Roads Sanitation District Pollution Prevention Award
- Commission on Opticianry Accreditation
- Council on Occupational Education Accreditation

Questions or more info?

Director of Training

DSN 953-7148

<http://138.143.250.101/nostra/>

or

HMC Norman Watson,

HM-8463 Enlisted Technical
Leader

DSN 953-4479